



CORNER IN FOXDENTON PARK 1949

# *The* HEALTH *of* CHADDERTON 1949



The Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health, Urban District of Chadderton :  
A. V. STOCKS, M.A., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.



URBAN DISTRICT OF CHADDERTON

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The  
**ANNUAL REPORT**

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of the  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
1949

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A. V. STOCKS, M.A., M.B., CH.B. D.P.H.





TOWN HALL,  
CHADDERTON,  
LANCASHIRE.

*August, 1950.*

To the Chairman and Members of the Council.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Health of Chadderton for the year ended 31st December, 1949. In consequence of the transfer of certain functions to the Lancashire County Council as from July, 1948, under the National Health Service Act, no detailed report is given this year of the Maternity and Child Welfare Services in the district.

It is, however, most gratifying to be able to state that the vital statistics in connection with maternal and child welfare are very satisfactory for 1949. The death rate of infants under one year of age was 27 per 1,000 live births, being the lowest ever recorded in the township, except for 1945 when the infant mortality was the same.

Fifty years ago the report of the Medical Officer of Health for the district (Dr. Ashton) stated that for the year 1899 the infant mortality rate was 161 and for the two previous years it was 180, and 191 per 1,000 live births ; these figures represent about six or seven times as many infant deaths per 1,000 live births as occurred in 1949.

The infant mortality rate at 27 is actually lower than that for England and Wales (32), and is lower than that for Health Division No. 14 as a whole (36). Considering how highly industrialised the district is, the saving of infant life represented by these figures reflects no little credit on mothers, nurses, doctors and all who are responsible for infant care.

There were no maternal deaths in connection with child birth ; in the last five years there has only been one such death recorded in Chadderton, which is a testimony to the ante-natal, medical and midwifery services.

There was one death from infectious disease in 1949, due to complications following measles.

Fifty years ago in his report for 1899, Dr. Ashton reported that there had been 65 deaths in Chadderton from infectious illness, including 8 from diphtheria, 5 from scarlet fever, 3 from typhoid, 6 from measles 7 from whooping cough and no less than 36 from diarrhoea. The remarkable change in half a century is attributable to many factors, chiefly better sanitation, a wider knowledge of the principles of health on the part of the public, preventive measures such as diphtheria immunisation and the availability of new and more effective means of treatment.

There is, however, a continuing need for effort to prevent disease. Although happily mortality from infectious diseases is now very slight, there is still much illness attributable to infective agents. A mild form of scarlet fever was widely prevalent in this and neighbouring districts in the latter half of 1949. Much minor illness, including the minor forms of dysentery, is spread through faulty habits in connection with the preparation and distribution of food. Your Health Committee has been concerned at the numerous outbreaks of food poisoning occurring in the country and has taken measures through the formation of a Clean Food Association to educate traders and the public in the principles of food hygiene. A Clean Food Campaign, including lectures and a highly successful Food Hygiene Exhibition in the spring of 1950, has already improved conditions in many food establishments in the district. At the time of writing this report a number of outbreaks of sonne dysentery in nurseries in this and neighbouring districts emphasise the need for continued care in this matter of food hygiene.

Diphtheria immunisation needs to be maintained with energy. The present percentage of children who have been immunised is satisfactory, but must not be allowed to fall off. There is a danger that the absence of diphtheria in the area might lead parents to think that immunisation is no longer important. The fact is that if immunisation were to fall into abeyance diphtheria would soon become the menace to child health which it was 20 years ago.

The recent disastrous outbreak of smallpox in Glasgow shows the need for preventive vaccination ; of the six persons who died none had ever been vaccinated. It is a matter of concern that only some 14% of infants born in this and neighbouring districts of Health Division No. 14 are being vaccinated.

In the following pages details are given of the Health Services administered by the Council.

I desire to express my gratitude for the support of the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee, to Dr. T. Seymour Jones for most valuable assistance during the year, and to Mr. Mann and all the staff of the Health Department for their ungrudging help and interest in the many health and sanitary problems that presented themselves during the 12 months.

I am,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A. V. STOCKS,

Medical Officer of Health.



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## HEALTH COMMITTEE

1949-50

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*Chairman :*

Councillor Edwin Buckley

*Vice-Chairman :*

Councillor Arthur Tongue, J.P.

Councillor George Howard

Councillor Geoffrey Boothroyd Jackson, J.P.

Councillor William Edmund Parker

Councillor Ralph Semple

Councillor James Taylor

Councillor James Toft

Councillor Robert Weems

## STAFF

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<i>Medical Officer of Health</i> .....	A. V. STOCKS, M.A., M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.
<i>Senior Sanitary Inspector</i> ...	J. MANN, M.S.I.A., A.R.S.I.
<i>Additional Sanitary Inspectors</i>	R. T. SUCKSMITH, C.R.S.I. (Resigned 9th June, 1949.)
	G. W. MAXTED, M.S.I.A. (Appointed 1st July, 1949.)
	K. MORGAN, M.S.I.A., A.R.S.I. (Appointed 6th June, 1949.)
<i>Chief Clerk</i>	H. PRENTON
<i>General Clerk- Shorthand-Typist</i>	Mrs. G. BARRELL
<i>Junior Assistant</i>	R. HEUGH (Appointed 20th August, 1949.)

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

### POPULATION

The Registrar-General gives the estimated population of Chadderton for mid-year 1949 as 31,340.

### MARRIAGES

The number of marriages occurring in the district plus those taking place at the District Registry Office, Oldham, where both participants are, or the woman only is, resident in Chadderton numbered 235. The corresponding figure for the previous year was 297.

### BIRTHS

During the year there was a marked decline in the number of births, there being 473 live births as against 540 in the previous year. This gives a birth rate of 15.1 per 1,000 of the population. Fifty years ago the birth rate was 27 per 1,000 of the population, and it is seen that these years have witnessed a great change in the social life of the community resulting in much smaller families.

### DEATHS

The chief causes of death are shown in Table II, Appendix A. The total number of deaths in 1949 was 406, giving a death rate of 14.2 per 1,000 of the population. Heart disease was the chief cause of death, accounting for 32.5% of the total. All forms of cancer caused 58 deaths, and diseases of the respiratory system accounted for 60 deaths.

### MATERNAL MORTALITY

It is gratifying to report that no maternal deaths associated with childbirth occurred during the year. Only one such death has occurred during the past five years.

### INFANT MORTALITY AND STILL BIRTHS

In 1949 there were 13 infant deaths, giving an infant mortality rate of 27 per 1,000 live births, as compared with rates of 32 for England and Wales and 30 for the 148 Smaller Towns. Of the 13 infants who died under one year of age, eight died during the first month, giving a neo-natal mortality rate of 16.9 per 1,000 live births.

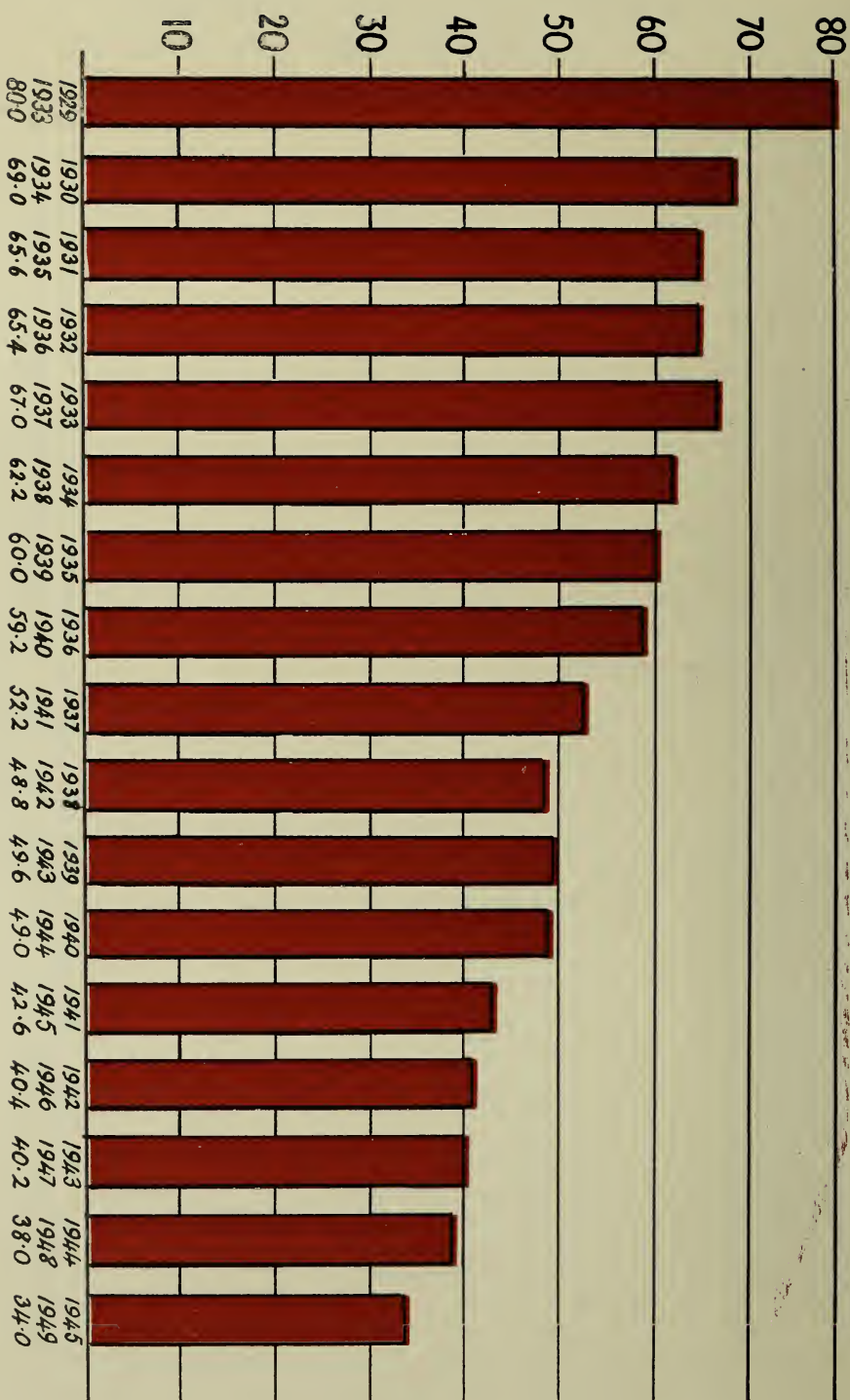
The number of births in Chadderton in any one year is not sufficient to make the infant mortality rate a reliable guide, but the same index taken over a period of five years, gives a reasonably reliable result, and this is shown in the diagram of quinquennial infant mortality rates, page 10. The infant mortality rate has always been considered to be a good indication of the social conditions of the area. It will be seen that the infant mortality rate has gradually decreased from 80 per 1,000 live births in the period 1929-1933 to 34 per 1,000 live births in the period 1945-1949.

Still births during the year totalled 13, representing a rate of 27 per 1,000 total births. The combined still birth and neo-natal mortality rate continues fairly high at 44 per 1,000, but this is a little lower than for 1948.

From Table III, it will be seen that most of the eight neo-natal deaths occurred during the first week after birth, and that congenital malformations were the chief cause of death.

Table IV shows that of the 13 infants who died before their first birthday, eight died in the first month of life, constituting 61% of the total. There is still need for the further education of the public, both mothers and fathers, in the care of young infants.

# QUINQUENNIAL INFANT MORTALITY RATES







FOXDENTON PARK, CHADDERTON

## **SOCIAL CONDITIONS**

### **General**

There were no changes in the Social Services provided during the year. All the Medical Health and Clinic Services are organised and supervised on a divisional basis and Chadderton forms part of Health Division No. 14. These services, especially home helps and home nursing schemes, have been considerably extended during the year.

### **Employment**

The Manager of the Chadderton Employment Exchange has kindly informed me that the level of unemployment is low and that 60% of those who are unemployed are disabled persons. Employment figures are maintained at a high level.

### **Council House Tenancies**

Provision should be made for the housing of small families, single persons or aged couples in small houses or bungalows thus allowing the larger type of house with more bedroom space to be occupied by larger families with children. A survey of at least Council house property with

this object in view could be carried out. The provision of bungalows for old people should not mean their complete isolation from the rest of the community, they should rather form an integral part of an estate representative of all ages.

## **Open Spaces**

Efforts to provide open spaces for children, gardens for the public and seats to form rest sanctuaries for our old folk should be intensified, with the object of making the people's environment pleasanter and removing some of the drabness from their lives. It is noticed that both young and old make excellent use of the opportunities provided by the Council.

The possibility of supplying plants and shrubs at cost price to Council house tenants would also benefit the district, for the cultivation of a garden is a joy and a pleasant recreation, helping to alleviate the monotony of bricks and mortar.

Once again attention is drawn to the urgent need to clear up some of the derelict sites where children play hide and seek with danger.

## **CLEAN FOOD ASSOCIATION**

The methods of preparation, storage and distribution of food continue to attract more attention, and the public is demanding a higher standard of hygiene.

The rapid expansion of what can be described as the meals service, embracing factory canteens, school canteens and private restaurants has led to new problems and it was decided to call a general meeting of representatives of firms in Chadderton engaged in food manufacture and distribution, together with canteen, day nursery and school meals supervisors to decide on a policy and initiate a campaign. At this meeting the Chadderton Clean Food Association was formed and representatives of various trades were elected to a Committee, together with members of the Health Committee.

Articles of Association, and a general Code of Practice were drawn up and traders and food distributors circularised inviting applications for membership of the Association. On receipt of an undertaking by a trader or distributor to comply with the Articles of Association, arrangements are made for the premises to be inspected by the Sanitary Inspector. The applicant's name is then placed before the Committee with a view to membership. A certificate is issued for display in the premises concerned. In 1949, 24 certificates were awarded.

Three lecture-demonstration courses including film-strips on the hygiene of food handling have been held during the year for employees who handle food. These were well attended and interest was maintained. At the lectures swabs were obtained from the hands and finger nails, etc., of people attending. The results after plating were shown at subsequent lectures, causing much interest and discussion.

A Food Hygiene Exhibition was also arranged, which was held in the Town Hall in March, 1950.



## **GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA**

### **NOTIFICATIONS OF BIRTHS**

Under Section 203 of the Public Health Act, 1936, 473 live births and 13 stillbirths were notified.

### **MATERNITY SERVICE**

#### **Midwifery**

The domiciliary midwifery service is supervised in Chadderton by the Lancashire County Council, who employ three full-time midwives in the area.

#### **Ante-Natal Service**

An ante-natal clinic is held every Monday afternoon at the Central Clinic. During the year 177 women were confined in their own homes, of whom 113 made 580 attendances at the ante-natal clinic.

Of the total notified live and stillbirths, only 23% of the expectant mothers who had their confinements in their own homes attended the clinic.

#### **Post-Natal Clinics**

A post-natal clinic was held every second Friday each month under the supervision of Dr. T. N. Hart, M.B.E., until his resignation as from 30th September 1949, due to an increase in his other duties. Pending the appointment of a consultant the post-natal clinic was suspended, but recommenced in December 1949. As the Manchester Regional Hospital Board could not supply a consultant, the clinic is under the supervision of the Divisional Medical Staff and is now held every Thursday afternoon.

### **INFANT WELFARE SERVICES**

Four welfare sessions continue to be held weekly on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons at the Central Clinic, and on Wednesday and Friday afternoons at the Washbrook Clinic. Children are referred from these clinics to the Orthopaedic, Ophthalmic and Dental Clinics as required. Arrangements are also made for ultra-violet therapy for those children who need it.

Welfare foods and specially prepared fruit, vegetables and cereals are on sale at the clinics, and where necessary vitamin and iron products are also available.

### **DAY NURSERIES**

There are two day nurseries, both of a 40 place accommodation, which are the responsibility of the Lancashire County Council. In the district there are a further ten nurseries attached to various cotton mills, two of which were opened during the year.

The demand for accommodation is still heavy and it is hoped that this will be further relieved during 1950, by the provision of more new nurseries attached to the mills and the extension of the existing nurseries.

### **AMBULANCE SERVICE**

The ambulance service is provided by the Oldham Corporation and is the financial responsibility of the Lancashire County Council.

Since the service became free it has been more widely used, 3,705 calls being received during 1949 as against 3,187 in 1948, and 2,824 in 1947.

## **HOME HELP SERVICE**

During 1949 the Divisional Health Committee appointed a Home Help Organiser, whose duties are to co-ordinate the supply and demand of home helps throughout the Division.

The organiser's headquarters are at the Divisional Health Office, (Telephone : MAI. 6251).

## **HOME NURSING**

This service was also transferred to the Lancashire County Council and is now organised by the Divisional Health Committee. There are three full-time District Nurses seconded to Chadderton. Their services may be obtained at the request of the General Practitioner.

## **HOSPITAL AND CLINIC FACILITIES**

Facilities for general medical, surgical and obstetrical treatment are available at the Oldham Royal Infirmary, and Boundary Park General Hospital, Oldham.

The treatment centres for venereal diseases are : Boundary Park General Hospital, Oldham (Telephone : MAI. 3251), The District Infirmary, Ashton (Telephone : ASH. 1611), The Municipal Clinic, 20 Baillie Street, Rochdale (Telephone : 47474).

A tuberculosis clinic is held at the Brook Street Chest Clinic, Chadderton, where all chest conditions can be diagnosed and arrangements made for treatment. This clinic is held on Monday and Wednesday afternoons at 1-30 p.m. (Telephone : MAI. 1671).

Laboratory facilities are available at the Public Health Laboratory, Monsall, Manchester (Telephone : COL. 2733), and at Oldham Royal Infirmary, (Telephone : MAI. 3828), and Boundary Park General Hospital (Telephone : MAI. 3251).

The Divisional Health Office is at "Tylon," Middleton Road, Chadderton, where all information regarding Health Services may be obtained.

## PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

### NOTIFICATIONS

A summary of the various infectious diseases notified during 1949 is given below :—

Measles	...	...	...	...	...	250
Whooping Cough			...	...	...	111
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	137
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	20
Pulmonary Tuberculosis			...	...	...	24
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...			9
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	14
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	3
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	2
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum			...	...	...	1

### MEASLES

Measles occurred sporadically during most of the year, except during the month of February when 93 cases were notified out of the total of 250.

Measles is a much more dangerous disease than say scarlet fever because of the complications such as running ears, visual defects and general ill-health which may result ; yet only three cases of measles were admitted to hospital, 1.2%, whilst 23% of cases of scarlet fever were admitted to hospital. There was only one death from measles.

### WHOOPING COUGH

During the year there were 111 cases, including three admissions to hospital. No deaths occurred from this disease. There was no epidemic, the total number being made up of sporadic cases spread over the whole of the year.

### SCARLET FEVER

The notifications of scarlet fever were 137 for 1949 compared with 63 for 1948, but there was no outstanding epidemic, many of the cases being of an extremely mild nature. It is possible that some cases have occurred which have been so mild that even the patient has not realised that he has had the disease.

No deaths have occurred in Chadderton from scarlet fever since 1935.

## **PNEUMONIA**

During 1949, 20 cases were notified, but this number is probably not an accurate guide to the prevalence of pneumonia.

Ten deaths occurred including six of the cases who were removed to hospital.

## **TUBERCULOSIS**

This year shows an increase in the number of cases notified, there being 24 new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and nine cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis. Of the latter three were of cervical adenitis, two of the abdomen, one of the brain and one affecting the right ear. At 31st December, 1949 the register contained 137 cases of pulmonary and 60 cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

During the year 12 deaths occurred, nine from pulmonary and three from non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

## **DYSENTERY**

There were 14 cases in 1949 all occurring in children under the age of five years attending an industrial day nursery. The cases, all of which were treated by their own medical practitioners and subsequently recovered, were of the *Shigella Sonne* type.

The importance of early notification of cases of dysentery and food poisoning is stressed, preferably by telephone to be followed by notification in writing. This would enable the local health authority to trace and prevent the spread of the outbreak, and especially to obtain samples of food eaten, so that laboratory tests may be carried out to determine the cause of the food poisoning.

## **ERYSIPELAS**

Three cases occurred in 1949, one being admitted to hospital and the other two being nursed at home. There were no deaths from erysipelas.

## **DIPHThERIA**

Only two cases were notified during 1949, one an adult aged 47 and the other a child aged five years. The adult proved to be rather a severe case, but responded to treatment. The child, who had been immunised at the age of one, contracted a mild infection and made an uninterrupted recovery.

On looking at the Annual Reports of the Medical Officer of Health over the years it is clear that the number of deaths from diphtheria is becoming very small, and there is a comparable reduction in the number of cases. It is not too much to say therefore that for all practical purposes immunisation can abolish diphtheria.

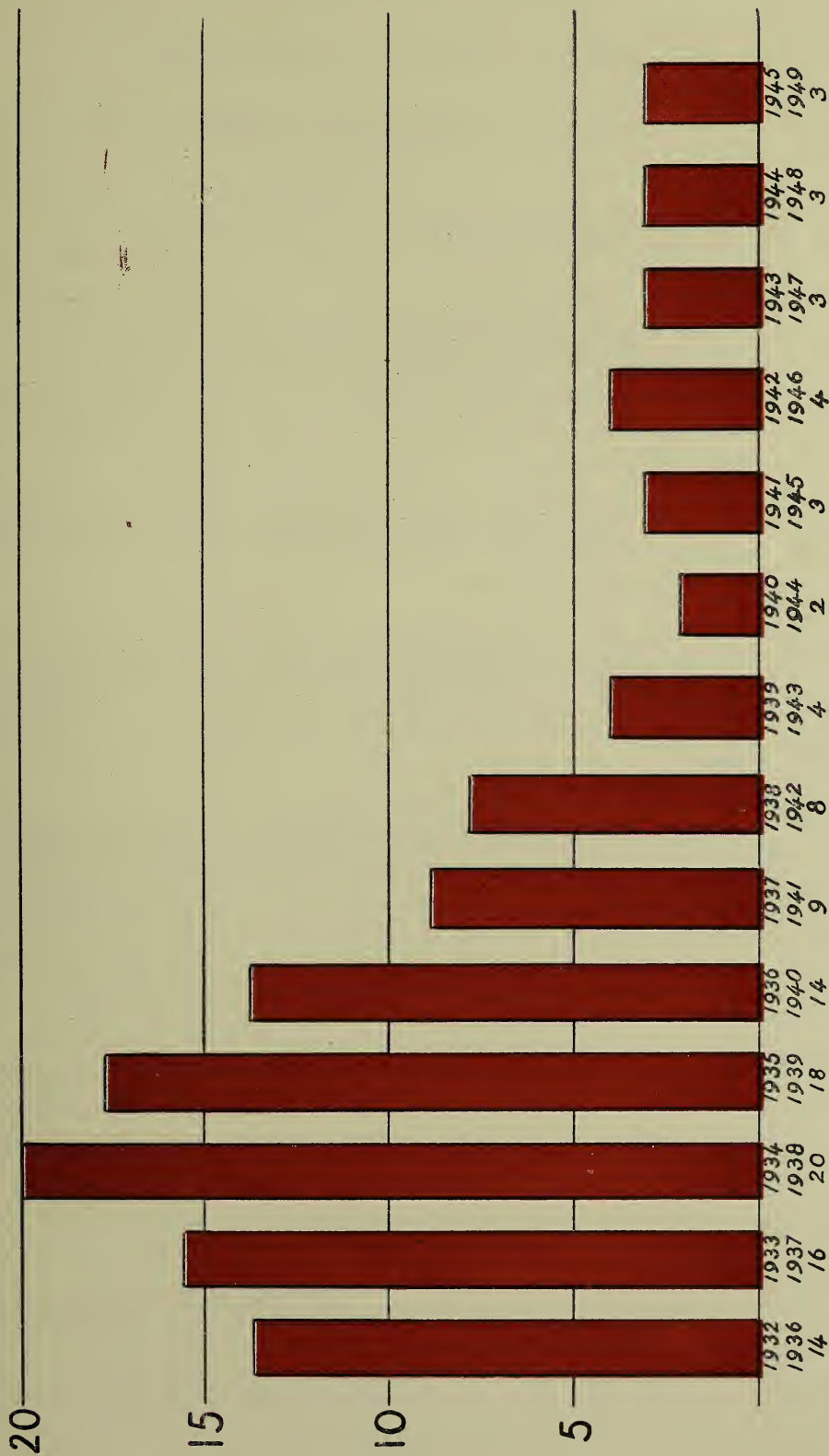
The quinquennial diphtheria deaths from 1932 to 1949 are shewn on page 17.

## **FOOD POISONING**

Only two cases of food poisoning were notified during the year, which probably do not represent the true total of persons affected. If the public would only realise that cases of minor abdominal pain, diarrhoea and vomiting may be food poisoning and report the same, more action could then be taken promptly towards prevention and control.



# QUINQUENNIAL DIPHTHERIA DEATHS



Public Health Department,  
Town Hall,  
Chadderton.

To The Medical Officer of Health.

*August, 1950.*

Sir,

The Annual Report upon the Sanitary Circumstances of the Area and the work done by the Sanitary Inspectors during 1949 is one that I have the honour and privilege to submit and it is a report upon a year that saw many changes in the Department, particularly from a staffing point of view.

The launching of the Clean Food Campaign has been beneficial in many ways and has greatly assisted the Inspectors in their approach to the food handler and shopkeeper.

The problem of the unfit house is still acute, but the policy of accepting undertakings from owners not to re-let certain houses as they become empty has borne fruit and gradually small insanitary areas are being cleared.

The various activities of the Department are commented upon under their respective titles in the report and little remains to be written here except to express my sincere thanks to you for your consideration and assistance, to Dr. T. Seymour Jones for his valuable help, to the Members of the Health Committee for their practical and ready support and to the members of the staff for their willing, active and unstinting co-operation.

I am also indebted to the staffs of other Departments for their collaboration, and in particular to the Engineer and Surveyor, the Cleansing Superintendent and the Baths Superintendent for material supplied for the compilation of the report.

Yours respectfully,

J. MANN,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.



## **ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES**

### **(A) SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA**

#### **WATER SUPPLY**

Although many districts still complain of shortage of water during drought periods, Chadderton enjoys a supply that is wholly sufficient and excellent in quality. The Oldham Corporation provide the bulk of the supply, but certain houses are served by the Middleton and Heywood Water Board and the Manchester Corporation. All three supplies are chlorinated. Less than 1% of the houses have no proper piped water supply and there are no stand pipes in the district. Forty-four premises, comprised of farms and dwelling-houses, are supplied by shallow well spring water.

No samples were taken of the mains supplies, as this is done regularly by the respective undertakings. It was found necessary to take two samples from wells supplying one house and both samples were reported upon as being unsatisfactory. The house has since been closed.

#### **NEW STREET WORKS**

No new street works were completed during the year under review. Four hundred and four lineal yards of new sewer were laid and street works in connection with the Northfield Road Housing Site were commenced.

#### **RIVERS AND STREAMS**

The Lancashire Rivers Board is the controlling authority for the streams in the district and its inspector makes a regular survey of the area. It was found that Bower Brook had become heavily polluted, but by mutual arrangement with the owners and a neighbouring Authority the stream was cleansed. No other serious complaint of pollution has been received.

#### **PUBLIC CLEANSING**

Refuse is collected from 10,670 dustbins at 10,314 premises, and is transported by three van type moving floor refuse collection vehicles, each manned by a driver and four ashes labourers. During the year 406,582 bins have been emptied and the weight of refuse collected was 9,095 tons.

Street cleansing is carried out by a Lewin Sweeper-Collector and six street orderlies working on the beat system.

Gullies are emptied by a Dennis Pax mechanical gully emptier and disposal of refuse is by controlled tipping (100%).

A salvage scheme has been in operation since 1940 and up to the end of September, 1949, 3,937 tons of material was collected, the proceeds from the sale being £16,917.

Three hundred and two pail closets are emptied weekly and three ashpits are given frequent attention.

## CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

The generosity of the Council continued to be appreciated as evidenced by the number of closet conversions. I am of the opinion that the grant made by the Council is responsible for the steady abolition of the waste water closets.

During the year four pail closets and seventy-nine waste water closets were converted to fresh water closets. 1,318 blocked waste water closets were attended to, a percentage of 45.3, compared with 168 fresh water closets, or 2.2% of the total, which were cleared of blockages. It is obvious that waste water closets are a source of inconvenience and nuisance and although they may have served a useful purpose in the past, their complete abolition would materially improve the district.

Four hundred and forty-eight complaints of choked drains were received and the blockages removed.

Details of the number and type of all closets in the district are given in Table VII, Appendix C.

## ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

During 1949 seven Council houses and thirteen other houses were disinfested by the Hyrdogen Cyanide method. All tenants are advised how re-infestation can occur and the precautions to be taken against this are explained. It should not be difficult for the average householder to keep his house free from vermin. Disinfestation of furniture should be carried out during removal as a condition of re-housing tenants from old property in Council houses.

## ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The boiler installations in the district are summarised below.

<i>Nature of Industry</i>							<i>No. of Chimneys</i>
Public Utility Undertakings—							
Electricity Station	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Sewage Works	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Baths	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Textile Factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	36
Engineering Works	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
General Manufacturing	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Chemical Works	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Centrally Heated Buildings, viz., and Municipal Buildings	...	...	...	Schools,	Hospital	...	17

Pollution by smoke still continues to be a problem of some importance in this industrial area. All concerns having steam raising plant were written during the year and their co-operation in the prevention of smoke nuisance was invited.

Thirty smoke observations were carried out in 1949 and where necessary the firms were warned, but no legal action was taken. In one case nuisance was created by grit emission, but after joint consultation between the management and staff of the firm concerned this nuisance was considerably minimised.

As more and more electrically driven machinery is installed the problem of industrial smoke will diminish, but it may be some time before this is apparent. In any event legal powers may be invoked to prevent too much nuisance from the factories, but this does not apply to domestic premises. The fact that nuisance is created by domestic chimneys may appear to be a hardy annual repeated through the years, but it cannot be brought to the notice of the house planner too often. The introduction of smokeless fuel grates and improvement in design of home heating installations should aid progress in reducing pollution, thus enabling residents to breathe a purer air.

## RODENT CONTROL

In accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, two treatments of the sewer system were carried out during 1949. A notable feature of the second treatment was that after preliminary test baiting of the system it was only necessary to bait 680 manholes out of a total of 1,109 in the district.

The following table shows the actual degree of infestation found to exist :—

	<i>Jan. and Feb.</i>	<i>July and Aug.</i>
Number of manholes baited ...	692	680
Number showing prebait take ...	131	104
Number showing complete prebait take	127	98

Two operatives were employed throughout the year and 345 treatments were carried out necessitating a total of 4,061 visits. One hundred and thirty visits were also made by the Sanitary Inspectors. The Council's sewage works and the Crossley Bridge tip were regularly inspected and treated.

## SWIMMING BATHS

Comment was made in the 1948 Annual Report upon the inadequacy of the facilities for swimming and taking baths. The position has in no way been relieved during 1949 and the demand for use remains far in excess of the provision.

25,419 school children attended the baths, 282 qualifying for swimming certificates and 100 free passes to the Swimming Baths were awarded.

Ten samples of the water in the plunge bath were taken during the year.

It would materially assist in the prevention of pollution of the swimming bath water if school children could be trained to use the lavatories before entering the plunge bath.

## FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948

The sanitary accommodation in some of the factories is not yet all that could be desired, but steady improvement goes on and gradually more and more firms are adopting the recommendations of the Joint Advisory Committee of the Cotton Industry in its Interim Report, dated 1946.

Table VIII, Appendix C., gives the number of inspections made and other details relating to the administration of the Acts for 1949.

## **SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA**

During the first six months of the year there were only two sanitary inspectors, but July saw the full complement when a further inspector was appointed and commenced duty.

It has been pleasing to note that more repairs were completed during 1949 without action having to be taken by the Department. In many cases owners are realising that property needs repair after the years of controls when work could not be done, and the more ready availability of materials is contributing to the impetus noticed.

The statement in Table VI, Appendix C, shows the number and nature of inspections made, together with details of action taken to remedy defects found.

### **(B) HOUSING**

Though the building of new houses goes on and new sites are being sought for further development, the housing problem is still acute. The policy of trying to keep old houses wind and weatherproof is in many ways merely a palliative and often causes a feeling of frustration, the repairs done being inadequate to render the house in all respects fit for habitation.

Fourteen houses were closed by agreement with the owners when the Council re-housed the tenants and this policy is being pursued regarding the older type of house. In this way it is hoped to remove small insanitary areas, but the problem of larger areas and the unwillingness of some owners to co-operate remains. Until it is possible to proceed with full scale slum clearance the position will not substantially improve.

The Council has erected 40 houses on the Melbourne Street Site during the year and a further 146 are being built there and on the Northfield Road Site.

Eight houses were built by private enterprise.

Some overcrowding exists, but it is difficult to assess the extent without a survey.

## **(C) INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD**

### **MILK SUPPLY**

On 1st October, 1949, the responsibility for the supervision of milk production was transferred from the Local Authority to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and the following Acts and Regulations became operative from that date :—

Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act, 1944.

Milk (Special Designations) Act, 1949.

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised) Regulations, 1949.

Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.

Under these various regulations the production and distribution of milk are distinct and separate, the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries being responsible for the registration of all dairy farms and the District Council being responsible for the registration of milk distributors, dairies or milk shops.



Consequently as from 1st October, 1949, the farms have not been inspected by the Sanitary Inspectors. Prior to that date the dairy farms in the district received 102 visits.

Two of the farms were licensed to produce and bottle accredited milk and under the former regulations 20 licences were issued in respect of the distribution of pasteurised and tuberculin tested milk.

The tabulated statement, Table XI, Appendix C, shows the number of milk samples taken during the year and the results obtained.

As sterilised milk is now a designated milk, there has been a great increase in the number of distributors registered. The details of registration and licences issued in accordance with the new regulations will be found on Table X, Page 32.

## **FOOD HYGIENE**

The formation of the Clean Food Association was one of the major events of the year and there can be no doubt that Chadderton can be proud of the efforts made to promote clean food production. The Association has led to a friendly feeling between the food handler and the Inspector and a team spirit has been built up.

There is not a large number of restaurants in Chadderton, but there are 35 industrial canteens in the area which prepare approximately 3,000 meals per day and two centres where school meals are prepared. Propaganda, lectures and inspections have created a friendly atmosphere and have done much to increase the hygienic methods of food preparation. A gradual improvement is occurring all the time in food premises.

370 inspections were made of the various premises where food is prepared, stored and sold.

### **Meat Inspection**

Although six slaughterhouse licences were renewed, little slaughtering is done in the district. The meat supply is obtained from the Government controlled abattoir at Manchester and the only carcasses examined are those of pigs slaughtered in the district under special licence from the Ministry of Food.

Fifty-seven visits were paid to slaughterhouses and butcher's shops.

The type and quantity of foods inspected and found unfit are shown in Table XII, Appendix C.

## **FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938—SAMPLING**

Under the provisions of this Act sampling is undertaken by the Lancashire County Council with the co-operation of the local authority's Sanitary Inspectors. Details of the work done in 1949 are given in Table XIII, Appendix C, and the results of analyses have been supplied by the County Medical Officer of Health.

## APPENDIX A

### STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

**TABLE 1**

#### VITAL STATISTICS

Population — 31,340  
(Registrar General's Estimate, Mid. 1949)

<b>Live Births</b>	{	Legitimate ...	...	...	...	M.	F.	Total
		Illegitimate	...	...	...	223	235	458
		Total	...	...	...	9	6	15
						<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
						232	241	473
						<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Birth-rate per 1,000 estimated population mid-1949								15.1
<b>Stillbirths</b>	...	...	...	...	...	8	5	13
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births								27.0
<b>Deaths</b>	...	...	...	...	...	180	226	406
Death rate per 1,000 estimated population mid-1949								14.2
Deaths from Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis								Nil
Deaths from other maternal causes								Nil
Total maternal mortality								<hr/> Nil <hr/>
Deaths of infants under one year of age—Total								13
Death-rate of infants under one year of age :—								
All infants per 1,000 live births								27
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births								24
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births								133



**TABLE II**  
**DEATHS (NET)—1949**

Causes of Death					Males	Females	Total	Total
							1949	1948
Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal fever	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	1
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	4	5	9	9	9	9	9
Other forms of tuberculosis	...	1	2	3	2	2	2	2
Syphilitic diseases	...	1	—	1	2	2	2	2
Influenza	...	2	7	9	—	—	—	—
Measles	...	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis and polioencephalitis	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus	...	1	—	1	5	5	5	5
Cancer of uterus	...	—	3	3	2	2	2	2
Cancer of stomach and duodenum	...	11	6	17	16	16	16	16
Cancer of breast	...	—	4	4	6	6	6	6
Cancer of all other sites	...	15	18	33	23	23	23	23
Diabetes	...	1	5	6	—	—	—	—
Cerebral vascular lesions	...	14	32	46	40	40	40	40
Heart disease	...	57	75	132	128	128	128	128
Other diseases of circulatory system	...	6	13	19	16	16	16	16
Bronchitis	...	25	20	45	39	39	39	39
Pneumonia	...	4	6	10	8	8	8	8
Other respiratory diseases	...	4	1	5	7	7	7	7
Peptic ulcer	...	—	1	1	4	4	4	4
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	1	—	1	4	4	4	4
Appendicitis	...	2	1	3	—	—	—	—
Other digestive diseases	...	2	2	4	10	10	10	10
Nephritis	...	4	5	9	8	8	8	8
Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other maternal causes	...	—	—	—	1	1	1	1
Premature Birth	...	1	—	1	5	5	5	5
Congenital malformation, birth injury, infantile diseases	...	3	3	6	12	12	12	12
Suicide	...	1	5	6	4	4	4	4
Road traffic accidents	...	4	—	4	3	3	3	3
Other violent causes	...	7	1	8	9	9	9	9
Other causes	...	9	10	19	28	28	28	28
All causes					180	226	406	392

TABLE III  
Neo-Natal Mortality—1949

Cause of Death	Under 1 Day		1 Day	2 Days	3 Days	4 Days	5 Days	6 Days	7 to 13 Days	14 to 20 Days	21 to 28 Days	Total
Congenital Malformation ...	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	5
Enteritis and Diarrhoea	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Causes ...	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Other Violence	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Prematurity ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
	1	-	-	2	-	3	-	-	2	-	-	8

TABLE IV  
Infantile Mortality—1949

Cause of Death	Under 1 month	Months											Total under 1 year
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
Congenital Malformation	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Enteritis and Diarrhoea ...	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Other Causes ...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Other Violence	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Pneumonia ...	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Prematurity	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	8	1	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	13

## APPENDIX B

### PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

TABLE V  
Cases Notified and Deaths from Tuberculosis during 1949

Age	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary M	F	Non- Pulmonary M	F	Pulmonary M	F	Non- Pulmonary M	F
0-1	...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1-5	...	-	1	2	-	-	1	-
5-10	...	1	-	2	-	-	-	-
10-15	...	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
15-20	...	2	-	1	-	-	-	-
20-25	...	1	1	-	-	1	-	-
25-35	...	-	5	1	-	2	-	-
35-45	...	4	1	-	1	-	-	2
45-55	...	3	2	-	1	1	-	-
55-65	...	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over...	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
	14	10	3	6	4	5	1	2
	24		9		9		3	

## APPENDIX C

### ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

#### (A) SANITARY INSPECTION

TABLE VI

##### (1) Inspection of Dwelling-Houses

Total houses inspected under Public Health and Housing Acts								2,228
Total number of inspections made								4,360
Housing (Consolidated) Regulations								112
After Infectious Disease								215
Overcrowded Premises								21
Defects Found								1,826
Defects Remedied								1,660
Notices Served (Preliminary)								1,262
Notices Complied with (Preliminary)								1,076
Re-inspections re Notices Served								2,639

##### (2) Premises Controlled by Bye-Laws and Regulations

Offensive Trades								12
Tents, Vans, Sheds and Fairgrounds								4
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops								106
Smoke Observations								30

##### (3) Factories, Workshops and Workplaces

				Inspections	Defects	Notices
Factories	...	...	...	132	15	15
Bakehouses	...	...	...	35	1	1
Workplaces	...	...	...	—	—	—
Butchers' Premises	...	...	...	23	2	2
Fishmongers	...	...	...	15	—	—
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	31	—	—
Restaurants, Dining Rooms and Canteens	...	...	...	16	—	—
Stables and Stable Yards and Piggeries	...	...	...	72	—	—
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	34	—	—

26 workpeople were notified as carrying out work in their home, principally in the clothing trade.

##### (4) Miscellaneous

					Inspections
Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919	...	...	...	...	130
Schools	...	...	...	...	20
Shops	...	...	...	...	446
Drainage	...	...	...	...	932
Dustbins	...	...	...	...	913
Water Supply	...	...	...	...	26
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	58
Offensive Accumulations	...	...	...	...	62
Disinfections	...	...	...	...	138
Petroleum	...	...	...	...	6

Fresh Water Closets	...	...	...	...	...	...	152
Waste Water Closets	...	...	...	...	...	...	286
Sanitary Pails	...	...	...	...	...	...	110
Milk Sampling	...	...	...	...	...	...	141
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Applicants for Council Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	236
Interviews	...	...	...	...	...	...	81
Other Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	146

(5) Notices Served

Informal Notices	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,262
Statutory Notices	...	...	...	...	...	...	204

(6) Notices Complied with

Informal Notices	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,076
Statutory Notices	...	...	...	...	...	...	149
Statutory Notices complied with by Council in Default of Owner	...	...	...	...	...	...	25

Statutory Notices :—

Public Health Act, 1936.

Section 39	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Section 45	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Section 47	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Section 56	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Section 75	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
Section 83	...	...	...	...	...	...	-

Housing Act, 1936.

Section 9	...	...	...	...	...	...	73
„ 10	...	...	...	...	...	...	32

Factories Act, 1937 and 1948

Section 7.	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
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Total ... 204

TABLE VII

Type of Closet	Number in 1947	Number in 1948	Converted 1949	Number at end of 1949
Pail Closets	309	306	4	302
Waste Water Closets	3,057	2,990	79	2,911
*Fresh Water Closets	7,372	7,513	—	7,613
Total	10,738	10,809	83	10,826

\*The figures for Fresh Water Closets include Trough Closets.

**TABLE VIII**  
**FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948**

(1) Inspections for purposes of provisions as to Health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	19	13	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	176	117	3	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises) ...	3	2	-	-
Total ...	198	132	3	-

(2) Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of Cases in which Defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)...	4	4	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3) ... ..	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient ...	2	3	-	1	-
(b) Unsuitable or defec- fective ...	6	5	-	2	-
(c) Not separate for the sexes ... ..	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...	-	-	-	-	-
Total ...	12	12	-	3	-



## HOUSING STATISTICS

### TABLE IX

(a) Number of dwellings provided in Chadderton during 1949 :—					
(1)	By the Urban District Council	...	...	...	60
(2)	By other bodies and persons	...	...	...	8
Total					68

#### (b) UNFIT DWELLING-HOUSES

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year :—					
(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	2,228
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	4,360
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations	...	...	112
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	179
(3)		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	20
(4)		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	549

#### 2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers...	...	...	...	...	...	424
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

#### 3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.					
(1)		Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	73
(2)		Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices.			
	(a)	By owners	...	...	62
	(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	...	...	20
B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—					
(1)		Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	64
(2)		Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of notices :—			
	(a)	By Owners	...	...	46
	(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners	...	...	3

C.	Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ..	1
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ..	—
D.	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1)	Number of tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made... ..	—
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenements or rooms having been rendered fit ... ..	—
<i>NOTE.—As a result of informal approach to owners 12 houses were closed and 2 closed owned by the Council. Tenants were rehoused in each case.</i>		
4.	<b>Housing Act, 1936, Part IV—Overcrowding :—</b>	
A.	(1) Number of dwelling-houses overcrowded at the end of the year ... ..	35
	(2) Number of Families dwelling therein ... ..	45
	(3) Number of Persons dwelling therein ... ..	179½
B.	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... ..	9
C.	(1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... ..	12
	(2) Number of Persons concerned in such cases ... ..	74

## MILK SUPPLY

TABLE X

No. of milk distributors ... ..	159
No. of licences to retail pasteurised milk ... ..	20
No. of licenses to retail sterilised milk ... ..	116
No. of licences to retail tuberculin tested milk ... ..	6
No of licences to retail accredited milk ... ..	2
No. of Supplementary licences... ..	4

TABLE XI  
ANALYSIS OF MILK SAMPLES WHICH HAVE BEEN EXAMINED BIOLOGICALLY DURING THE YEAR 1949.

Source of Supply	No. of samples	Methylene Blue Test		Coliform Test		Number of samples satisfying both tests	T.B. Positive	T.B. Negative	% T.B. Positive	Number of Samples		% Unsatisfactory
		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory					Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	
Chadderton Farmers	45	27	18	19	13	14	1	44	0.2	27	18	40.0
Dairy Milk, Chadderton ...	3	2	1	1	1	1	—	3	0.0	2	1	33.3
Out-District Farmers	14	9	5	8	3	5	2	12	0.14	9	5	35.7
Dairy Milk, Out-Districts ...	4	3	1	1	1	1	—	4	0.0	3	1	25.0
Pasteurised ...	4	3	1	1	1	1	—	4	0.0	3	1	25.0
Sterilised... ..	2	2	—	2	—	2	—	2	0.0	2	—	0.0
Accredited Chadderton Farms	5	2	3	4	1	1	—	5	0.0	1	4	80.0
Total ...	77	48	29	36	20	25	3	74	3.89	47	30	38.96

TABLE XII

## Unsound Food Condemned—1949

									lbs.
Bacon, Ham and Pork	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	449 $\frac{3}{4}$
Butter	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Cheese	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Eggs (Frozen)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	114
Fruit	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	110
Meat (Imported)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	133 $\frac{1}{2}$
Meat (Tinned)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27 $\frac{3}{4}$
Milk (Tinned)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	89 $\frac{1}{4}$
Offal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,150
Preserves	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Rhubarb Puddings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31 $\frac{3}{4}$
Tongue	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13 $\frac{3}{4}$
Vegetables	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	186 $\frac{3}{4}$
Total									2,356 $\frac{1}{2}$

TABLE XIII

**Food and Drugs Act, 1938—Samples Submitted for  
Examination—1949**

	No. of Samples Taken							
Aspirin Tablets ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Beef Sausages ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Boracic Ointment ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Butter ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Coffee ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Coffee with chicory essence ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cooking Fat ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Cocoa ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Doughnuts ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Epsom Salts ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Herrings in Tomato ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ice Cream ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Iced Teacakes ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Iodine Ointment ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Jam Roll ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Jam Puff ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Malt Vinegar ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Margarine ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Milk ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	98
Olive Oil ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Rock Cod ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sild... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Syrup ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Whiting in Tomato ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
							<b>Total</b>	<b>155</b>

The above samples were certified by the County Analyst to be genuine with the exception of the following :—



Sample			Results of Analysis			Action Taken
			Fat Deficiency	Solids not Fat Deficiency	Extraneous Water Present	
1	Formal	Milk	8.3%	—	—	Vendor Notified.
1	Informal	„	—	2.3%	4.1%	} Same Vendor. Formal Samples obtained.
1	„	„	—	2.3%	4.0%	
1	„	„	—	1.1%	3.0%	
1	„	„	—	—	2.3%	
1	„	„	—	1.7%	2.1%	} Milk produced in Cheshire. Information passed on to Local Authority concerned
1	„	„	—	4.1%	4.3%	

Sample		Result	Action Taken
1	Iodine Ointment	Contained Oil of Wintergreen	Vendor communicated with.
1	Beef Sausage	Deficient 10% of the minimum percentage of meat.	Vendor cautioned.



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